



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6915

January Session, 2023



**AN ACT CONCERNING CANNABIS USE PREVENTION EFFORTS
RELATED TO YOUTH.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 12-330ll of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2023, and applicable to taxes due on or after that date*):

4 (i) The tax received by the state under this section shall be deposited
5 as follows:

6 (1) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2022, and June 30, 2023, in the
7 cannabis regulatory and investment account established under section
8 21a-420f, as amended by this act;

9 (2) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2024, June 30, 2025, and June
10 30, 2026, sixty per cent of such tax received in the Social Equity and
11 Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, as amended by
12 this act, [twenty-five] thirty per cent of such tax received in the
13 Prevention and Recovery Services Fund established under section 21a-
14 420f, as amended by this act, and [fifteen] ten per cent in the General
15 Fund;

16 (3) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2027, and June 30, 2028, sixty-
17 five per cent of such tax received in the Social Equity and Innovation

18 Fund established under section 21a-420f, as amended by this act,
19 [twenty-five] thirty per cent of such tax received in the Prevention and
20 Recovery Services Fund and [ten] five per cent in the General Fund;
21 and

22 (4) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2029, and each fiscal year
23 thereafter, seventy-five per cent of such tax received in the Social
24 Equity and Innovation Fund established under section 21a-420f, as
25 amended by this act, and twenty-five per cent of such tax received in
26 the Prevention and Recovery Services Fund established under section
27 21a-420f, as amended by this act.

28 Sec. 2. Subsection (d) of section 21a-420f of the general statutes is
29 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
30 *1, 2023*):

31 (d) On and after July 1, 2022, there is established a fund to be known
32 as the "Prevention and Recovery Services Fund" which shall be a
33 separate, nonlapsing fund. The fund shall contain any moneys
34 required by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the
35 Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and
36 accounts. Moneys in the fund shall be appropriated for the purposes of
37 (1) substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery services, which
38 may include, but need not be limited to, the (A) provision of youth
39 cannabis use prevention services by the local advisory councils on
40 drug use and prevention established by municipalities pursuant to
41 subsection (a) of Section 4126 of the Drug Free Schools and
42 Communities Act of 1986, as amended from time to time, regional
43 behavioral health action organizations described in section 17a-484f, or
44 youth service bureaus established pursuant to section 10-19m, and (B)
45 development of a public awareness campaign to raise awareness of the
46 mental and physical health risks of youth cannabis use and cannabis
47 use by pregnant persons, and (2) collection and analysis of data
48 regarding substance use. The Social Equity Council may make
49 recommendations to any relevant state agency regarding expenditures
50 to be made for the purposes set forth in this subsection.

51 Sec. 3. Section 17a-667 of the general statutes is repealed and the
52 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

53 (a) There is established a Connecticut Alcohol and Drug Policy
54 Council which shall be within the Department of Mental Health and
55 Addiction Services.

56 (b) The council shall consist of the following members: (1) The
57 Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, or the secretary's
58 designee; (2) the Commissioners of Children and Families, Consumer
59 Protection, Correction, Education, Mental Health and Addiction
60 Services, Public Health, Emergency Services and Public Protection,
61 Aging and Disability Services and Social Services, and the Insurance
62 Commissioner, or their designees; (3) the Chief Court Administrator,
63 or the Chief Court Administrator's designee; (4) the chairperson of the
64 Board of Regents for Higher Education, or the chairperson's designee;
65 (5) the president of The University of Connecticut, or the president's
66 designee; (6) the Chief State's Attorney, or the Chief State's Attorney's
67 designee; (7) the Chief Public Defender, or the Chief Public Defender's
68 designee; (8) the Child Advocate, or the Child Advocate's designee;
69 and (9) the cochairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
70 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
71 relating to public health, criminal justice and appropriations, or their
72 designees. The Commissioner of Mental Health and Addiction Services
73 and the Commissioner of Children and Families shall be
74 cochairpersons of the council and may jointly appoint up to seven
75 individuals to the council as follows: (A) Two individuals in recovery
76 from a substance use disorder or representing an advocacy group for
77 individuals with a substance use disorder; (B) a provider of
78 community-based substance abuse services for adults; (C) a provider
79 of community-based substance abuse services for adolescents; (D) an
80 addiction medicine physician; (E) a family member of an individual in
81 recovery from a substance use disorder; and (F) an emergency
82 medicine physician currently practicing in a Connecticut hospital. The
83 cochairpersons of the council may establish subcommittees and

84 working groups, [and] including, but not limited to, subcommittees on
85 substance use prevention, treatment and recovery that may collaborate
86 with an academy of science and engineering or an institution of higher
87 education in the state to examine effective substance use prevention,
88 treatment and recovery efforts. The chairpersons of the council may
89 appoint individuals other than members of the council to serve as
90 members of the subcommittees or working groups. Such individuals
91 may include, but need not be limited to: (i) Licensed alcohol and drug
92 counselors; (ii) pharmacists; (iii) municipal police chiefs; (iv)
93 emergency medical services personnel; and (v) representatives of
94 organizations that provide education, prevention, intervention,
95 referrals, rehabilitation or support services to individuals with
96 substance use disorder or chemical dependency.

97 (c) The council shall review policies and practices of state agencies
98 and the Judicial Department concerning substance abuse treatment
99 programs, substance abuse prevention services, the referral of persons
100 to such programs and services, and criminal justice sanctions and
101 programs and shall develop and coordinate a state-wide, interagency,
102 integrated plan for such programs and services and criminal sanctions.

103 (d) Such plan shall be amended not later than January 1, 2017, to
104 contain measurable goals, including, but not limited to, a goal for a
105 reduction in the number of opioid-induced deaths in the state.

106 (e) On or before January 1, 2024, the council shall establish a
107 cannabis health review panel composed of members jointly selected by
108 the cochairpersons of the council. The review panel shall examine the
109 effects of the use of cannabis, including, but not limited to, (1)
110 overdose of cannabis by young people, (2) episodes of psychosis in
111 persons who use cannabis, and (3) the impact of cannabis of higher
112 potencies on the developing brain. On or before January 1, 2025, and
113 annually thereafter, the panel shall report its findings to the council.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023, and applicable to taxes due on or after that date</i>	12-33011(i)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	21a-420f(d)
Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	17a-667

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*